

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GENEVA 10831 01 OF 02 221735Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DOTE-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-05 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 CTME-00 AF-10 ARA-10
EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 /130 W
-----083839 221756Z /42

R 221712Z NOV 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3339
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 10831

PASS TO LARSEN (DOT), DWYER (COMMERCE) FRANCIS (CUSTOMS)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNCTAD
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF FIRST WEEK OF 4TH INTERGOVERNMENTAL
PREPARATORY GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT

1. SUMMARY: FIRST MATTER OF SUBSTANCE DISCUSSED AT 4TH
IPG WAS CUSTOMS, WHICH WAS ASSIGNED TO A WORKING GROUP
OF EXPERTS ON CUSTOMS. USDEL MADE KNOWN ITS POSITION ON
CUSTOMS AND STEPPED DOWN AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE WG
ON CUSTOMS. REMAINDER OF FIRST WEEK SPENT ON GROUP B
DISCUSSION OF COMMON UNDERSTANDING AND CONSULTATION
PROBLEMS. BECAUSE OF SLOW PACE, DOUBTFUL THAT: 4TH
IPG WILL DISCUSS LIABILITY AND INSURANCE; THAT A SECOND
READING WILL BE MADE ON THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED, ALBEIT
FOR THE MOST PART BRACKETED, AT THE 3RD IPG ON DOCU-
MENTATION AND SCOPE OF APPLICATION; ALSO DOUBTFUL THAT
DOCUMENTS PREPARED FOR 4TH IPG ON P&I CLUBS, LIABILITY
OF MTO, AND MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR MTO WILL BE DIS-
CUSSED. AT BEST, WG AFTER COMPLETING WORK ON CUSTOMS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GENEVA 10831 01 OF 02 221735Z

(21 NOV) WILL TAKE UP CONSULTATION PROBLEMS (22 NOV) AND
THEN POSSIBLY GENERAL QUESTIONS. 4TH IPG CHARACTERIZED
BY CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DISSENTION WITHIN G-77 (LATINS
AND AFRICANS). USDEL BELIEVES MOST GROUP B DELEGATIONS
ARE AMBIVALENT ON A CONVENTION. 5TH IPG SCHEDULED FOR
LATE 1978. END SUMMARY.

2. A. CPENING GROUP B MEETING, 14 NOVEMBER, QUESTIONS OF (1) HOW TO HANDLE CUSTOMS AND CONSULTATIONS WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF AN MT CONVENTION, AND (2) HOW TO QUOTE FLESH OUT UNQUOTE THE COMMON UNDERSTANDING WERE BROUGHT FORWARD. REGARDING THE CUSTOMS MATTER, SEVERAL GROUP B DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING THE USA, DID NOT BRING EXPERTS AND THOSE THAT DID STATED THEY WERE NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL 17 NOVEMBER. CONSENSUS WAS THAT GROUP B WOULD DISCUSS CUSTOMS AND THE WG, CHAIRED BY THE DELEGATE FROM TANZANIA, REPLACING THE ETHIOPIAN CHAIRMAN WHO WAS ABSENT FROM THE SESSION, INITIALLY MET ON 17 NOV. THE USDEL STEPPED DOWN AS A WG MEMBER FOR THE CUSTOMS PORTION OF THE DISCUSSION IN PART TO SERVE AS A SIGNAL THAT THE US POSITION IS THAT CUSTOMS MATTERS ARE BEST LEFT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE CUSTOMS COOPERATIVE COUNCIL AND SHOULD NOT BE PART OF AN MT CONVENTION. EVEN THOUGH THE WG IS IN SESSION AND IS EXPECTED TO COMPLETE ITS WORK BY 21 NOVEMBER, DAILY DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE WITHIN GROUP B AS TO WHERE CUSTOMS WILL "FIT INTO" AN MT CONVENTION. REGARDING THE COMMON UNDERSTANDING ARRIVED AT DURING THE 3RD IPG, DISCUSSION OF DRAFT PROPOSALS ON THE COMMON UNDERSTANDING CONTINUES TO OCCUPY MUCH OF THE DISCUSSION TIME OF GROUP B. THE 3RD AREA OF DISCUSSION THAT ALSO IS OCCUPYING GROUP B'S ATTENTION IS CONSULTATION PROBLEMS RELATED TO MT OPERATORS. THE WG IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE UP CONSULTATIONS AFTER FINISHING WORK ON CUSTOMS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 GENEVA 10831 01 OF 02 221735Z

3. VERY DOUBTFUL, BECAUSE OF SLOW PROGRESS TO DATE, THAT WG WILL BE ABLE TO ADDRESS ANY OTHER ISSUES AT THE 4TH IPG SUCH AS LIABILITY AND INSURANCE WHICH HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED TO DATE; ALSO DOUBTFUL THAT WORK ACCOMPLISHED AT 3RD IPG ON DOCUMENTATION AND SCOPE OF APPLICATION, ALBEIT FOR THE MOST PART BRACKETED, WILL BE ADDRESSED AT 4TH IPG; AND WITH THE WORKING TIME LEFT, IT IS DOUBTFUL THE UNCTAD DOCUMENTS PREPARED FOR THE 4TH IPG ON P&I CLUBS, LIABILITY OF MTO, AND MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR MTO WILL BE DISCUSSED. AT BEST WG MAY CONCLUDE DISCUSSIONS ON CONSULTATIONS AND EMBARK ON SOME DISCUSSION OF GENERAL QUESTIONS.

4. PROF SELIG (NORWAY) REMAINS AS CHAIRMAN OF THE IPG; MR. GANTEN (FRG) IS GROUP B COORDINATOR; MR. ALONSO (ARGENTINA) IS THE RAPPORETEU MR. JOHE (USA) FRIEND OF THE RAPPORETEUR FOR GROUP B; AND DELEGATES OF USSR AND MEXICO SERVE AS GROUP D AND 77 COORDINATORS, RESPECTIVELY.

5. MEETING CHARACTERIZED BY CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DISSENTION

BETWEEN AFRICANS AND LATINS WITHIN G-77 TYPIFIED BY
NIGERIAN INITIATIVE IN INSISTING THAT WORKING GROUP DIS-
CUSSIONS ON CUSTOMS BE TENTATIVE ONLY AND TAKEN BACK TO
CAPITALS FOR STUDY BEFORE 5TH IPG. IT IS NOW LIKELY
THAT 4TH IPG WILL NOT ADDRESS THE PRINCIPLE PUBLIC LAW
ISSUE, I.E., WHETHER CUSTOMS PRINCIPLES WILL GO INTO ANY
ISSUE
I.E., WHETHER CUSTOMS PRINCIPLES WILL GO INTO ANY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GENEVA 10831 02 OF 02 221725Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DOTE-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-05 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 CTME-00 AF-10 ARA-10
EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 /130 W
-----083731 221756Z /42

R 221712Z NOV 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3340
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 10831

CONVENTION OR SIMPLY TAKE THE FORM OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO
GOVERNMENTS. FURTHER EVIDENCE OF LIMITED PROGRESS IS
THAT VIRTUALLY ALL GROUPS (AND SEGMENTS WITHIN G-77)
AGREE, FOR DIFFERING REASONS, THAT NO FURTHER REAL DIS-
CUSSION OF LIABILITY AND INSURANCE WILL TAKE PLACE AT
4TH IPG.

6. 5TH IPG SCHEDULED FOR LATE 1978 BUT NO MENTION HAS
BEEN MADE OF A DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE.

7. CONCLUSION: PROGRESS AT 4TH IPG, AS AT PREVIOUS IPGS,
CONTINUES AT A SLOW PACE. THERE IS AN ATMOSPHERE OF
ENNUI, FRAGMENTARY INTERVENTIONS AND MULTI-DIRECTIONAL
REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY MANY GROUP B COUNTRIES. USDEL
BELIEVES THAT MOST B DELEGATIONS ARE AMBIVALENT ON A
CONVENTION. THE EXPECTED STRONG BIDS BY THE CANADIANS
AND AUSTRALIANS FOR A CONVENTION HAVE NOT COME TO
FRUITION. VANDEN HEUVEL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA10831
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770433-0106
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771132/aaaabauv.tel
Line Count: 169
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ce952e14-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 497648
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUMMARY OF FIRST WEEK OF 4TH INTERGOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT
TAGS: OCON, BEXP, UNCTAD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ce952e14-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009